same as those of CRPF/BSF etc. While CRPF|BSF are armed forces of the Union, the members where of carry the liability of posting to any part of India and have to perform hazardous duties of law and order including the guarding of the country's borders (in case of BSF), this is not the case with SSF which is of un-armed character and performs duties of watch and ward and regulation of entry to Central Government Offices in Delhi.

Spurt in princes of Non-ferrous Metals

3453. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spurt in world prices for non-ferrous metals and a continuing depreciation of the rupee has hit the operations of several manufacturers including producers of cables automobile components and galvanised products;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incidence of the duties on all metals and scrap made the consumers of metal products bear a heavy burden; and

(c) whether Government propose to evolve an entirely new policy for tackling problems relating to non-ferrous metals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) Government is aware of the problem of the rising prices of non-ferrous metals because of the increase of prices in the international market and have taken steps to reduce the customs duties on non-ferrous metals from time to time.

Involvement of Society in Water Management

3454. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ancient Indain methods of collecting rain water in ponds, small check dams and sub-soil dams would help tackle the massive problems of soil erosion and create self confidence and involvement of society in water management; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to revive the ancient Indian methods in preference to spenning huge amounts on major irrigation projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) In view of the increasing demand of water in the developing society, the National Water Policy recommends optimal use of water resources for various purpses. Watershed management is the accepted concept whicth includes conservation of land and water resources.

Revival of LIC Policies

3455. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether LIC has recently carried out a campaign to revive LIC policies;

(b) whether it is a fact that this campaign did not properly touch rural areas;

(c) the steps being taken to extend this campaign for a further period; and

(d) what are the reasons for not reaching the rural areas properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India had launched a special revival campaign during the period from 1st December, 1988 to 28th February, 1989.

(b) to (d) Apart from issuing necessary instructions to all LIC's servicing